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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Dieter Winkler, Hans-Peter Feuerbaum and Joseph Bach  
Assignee: Applied Materials, Inc.  
Atty. Dkt.: 002935 USA/PDC/ICT/OR  
Serial No.: 09/162,103 Filed: September 28, 1998  
Examiner: Kalimah Fernandez Group Art Unit: 2881  
Title: Charged Particle Beam Microscope with Minicolumn

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Response to the Outstanding Office Action, an Extension Petition, and a Fee Transmittal form for the above-identified patent application. The application now has a total of thirty-two claims, including six (6) independent claims. Previously, fees have been paid for a total of twenty-six (26) claims, including six (6) independent claims. As such an additional fee is required for six additional dependent claims. Payment of this additional fee is authorized on the enclosed Fee Transmittal form.

Date: December 4, 2002

Respectfully submitted,  
By Michael B. Einschlag  
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Enc. Response to Outstanding Office Action  
Extension Petition  
Fee Transmittal form

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on December 4, 2002 with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Michael B. Einschlag  
Michael B. Einschlag

December 4, 2002  
Date of Signature